



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/833,401	04/11/2001	Roman S. Ferber	HOME 0459 PUS	3432
7590	06/16/2005		EXAMINER	
Kevin J. Heinl Brooks & Kushman P.C. 22nd Floor 1000 Town Center Southfield, MI 48075-1351			MATHEW, FENN C	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3764	
			DATE MAILED: 06/16/2005	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/833,401	FERBER ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Fenn C Mathew	3764	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 March 2005.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

An appeal brief was filed on 06/17/2004, and an Examiner's Answer was in turn filed on 08/25/2004. A preliminary review has noted that claim 10 has not been addressed. As such, finality of the last office action has been withdrawn in order to address claim 10.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.
2. Claims 1-7, 10, and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stern (U.S. 4,962,759) in view of Lin (U.S. 6,183,430) and further in view of Haraga (U.S. 5,245,714). Please see paragraphs 3-6 of the office action dated September 2, 2003. With respect to claim 10, note in figures 1 and 5, the housing of Stern defines a 'recess' on the top surface.
3. Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stern in view of Lin and Haraga as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Barrada (U.S. 5,588,161). Please see paragraph 7 of the office action dated September 2, 2003.
4. Claims 1 and 8-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lin in view of Haraga. Please see paragraphs 8-10 of the office action dated September 2, 2003.
5. Claims 12-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lin in view of Haraga as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Sandrin (U.S. 5,050,591). Please see paragraph 11-12 of the office action dated September 2, 2003.

Art Unit: 3764

6. Claims 14-25 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sandrin (U.S. 5,050,591) in view of Cook (U.S. 3,045,254). Please refer to paragraphs 1-6 discussing Sanhidrin in view of Cook in the office action dated January 9, 2004.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Fenn C Mathew whose telephone number is (571) 272-4978. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 9:00am - 5:30pm.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

fcm
fcm
June 13, 2005

Michael A. Brown
MICHAEL A. BROWN
PRIMARY EXAMINER